

Fellowship

Supporting Statement Template

Your Name	Dr Eleni Koutsogeorgou
Institution/organisation/other	London campus, Institute of Inner City Learning (IICL), University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Job Title	Lecturer
Email address	e.koutsogeorgou@uwtsd.ac.uk
Your Fellowship Status (if appropriate)	Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA)
Relationship to Applicant	I am the Programme Manager for the BSc Health and Social Care course, at which the applicant has been teaching since 2021.
How long have you worked with the applicant (insert dates)	Since October 2021.
Declaration	In submitting your supporting statement, you are confirming that the applicant's submission relates to their higher education professional practice and that your statement is your own work and has been written specifically for this applicant. If the professional integrity of the supporting statement is in question it will not be accepted. I confirm that I have read and agree with the declaration above. Date: 1st February 2023

Supporting Statement

Please provide your statement to support the applicant's submission for Fellow in the following section. You are required to comment on the applicant's recent higher education practice, providing examples to support your statement wherever possible.

In completing this supporting statement you are confirming that you have read the Guidance for referees. In addition to Descriptor 2 criteria, as a guide, it is important that you comment on the following in your supporting statement:

- your own experience of the applicant's recent HE practice;
- if you have been involved in peer observation of the applicant's teaching and/or support of learning, please draw on examples from this;
- any good or innovative practice and/or contribution to developments by the applicant in teaching and/or supporting learning within his/her discipline as appropriate;
- your perspective on the practical examples provided within the application to illustrate the requirements of Fellow.

Two sides of A4 will normally be sufficient for this category of Fellowship.

Reference provided for: Dr. Laila Surani (applicant for Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy)

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Dr. Eleni Koutsogeorgou and I am the Programme Manager for the BSc Health and Social Care at the London campus of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD).

I have known Dr. Laila Surani since October 2021, when Dr. Surani started working for UWTSD as an hourly-paid Lecturer on a part-time basis. Although I am not the line manager of Dr. Surani, I have supervised Dr. Surani's work within the BSc Health and Social Care programme's teaching team, on a weekly basis. I have also overseen Dr. Surani's work in supervision provided to dissertation students of Level 6 of our course, since February 2022. Dr. Surani has been a valuable member of our teaching team, supporting undergraduate students of our programme in their learning with both dissertations and Level 5 and Level 6 modules, namely: Introduction to Physiology; Introduction to Research; Public Health Policy; Children, Young People and Families; and Community Care and Development. Dr. Surani has been a Module Leader as well for the above modules.

I have observed evidence of good performance of students in the modules and dissertations that Dr. Surani is teaching or supervising – based on the overall average marks of students. The feedback from students has been positive so far about the

teaching and learning practices of Dr. Surani during classes too. Dr. Surani has also been involved in standardisation and marking process of our programme, marking moderation, presentation partner duties, among many others, as well as supporting extracurricular events for our health and social care students (e.g. Health Employability Day, Induction days, etc.)

In addition, Dr. Surani has been engaged in designing learning material and assignment briefs, following the quality assurance processes of the University, and considering how best to address the Learning Outcomes of the respective modules, whilst considering the learning needs and profile of our students. For example, we have worked together with colleagues from the IICL Birmingham campus to make improvements in the assignment briefs for the module 'Community Care and Development', which Dr. Surani was leading in the October 2022 term. Our collaboration in the development of the assessments has been productive and the contributions of Dr. Surani were valuable for updating these summative assessments and clarifying the tasks and assessment criteria of them for students.

Dr. Surani has also incorporated technology in her teaching, and for the Introduction to Physiology module has used a dummy of a human skeleton and of a human torso, as Dr. Surani has stated on the application form too, which is an excellent example of using learning aids/equipment to enhance students' learning and engagement during classes and the taught subject. Such activities also enhance inclusivity of different types of learners, such as visual and kinesthetic learners who prefer learning from practice.

I have also had the opportunity to observe one of Dr. Surani's classes in November 2021 as part of the Peer Observation process of UWTSD, during which Dr. Surani demonstrated very good teaching and learning skills, with expertise and knowledge on the field in relation to the topic covered, with minor suggestions for improvements required in terms of provision of instructions for students' activities and use of the VLE, which the lecturer has addressed since then, to my knowledge. Dr. Surani has been also supporting learning of students with the provision of formative feedback on draft assessments, based on feedback I have received from the lecturer and informally also from students, as well considering inclusivity of the learning material, as the applicant has stated in the form too.

Dr. Laila Surani is an expert in the field of public health, with research experience, and enthusiasm for supporting students' learning. Dr. Surani is working with professionalism and a polite manner with students and colleagues. Dr. Surani has also demonstrated very good organisational skills and time-management skills, responding promptly to enquiries and tasks, as well as attending team meetings and CPD training relevant to the above role.

Based on all above, I endorse Dr. Surani's application for Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Yours sincerely,

Eleni Koutsogeorgou

Dr Eleni Koutsogeorgou
PhD, MA, PGCert LTHE, SFHEA, FRSPH

Programme Manager of BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care
Lecturer in Health and Social Care